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MINISTRY FACTS



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**MINISTRY FACTS
SOLICITOR GENERAL CANADA**

Ministry Secretariat, 1985

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Hon. Perrin Beatty,
Solicitor General of Canada

Produced by the Communications Group,
Programs Branch,
Ministry Secretariat

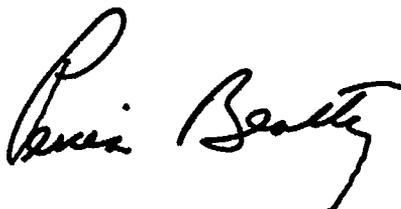
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Foreword by the Solicitor General of Canada

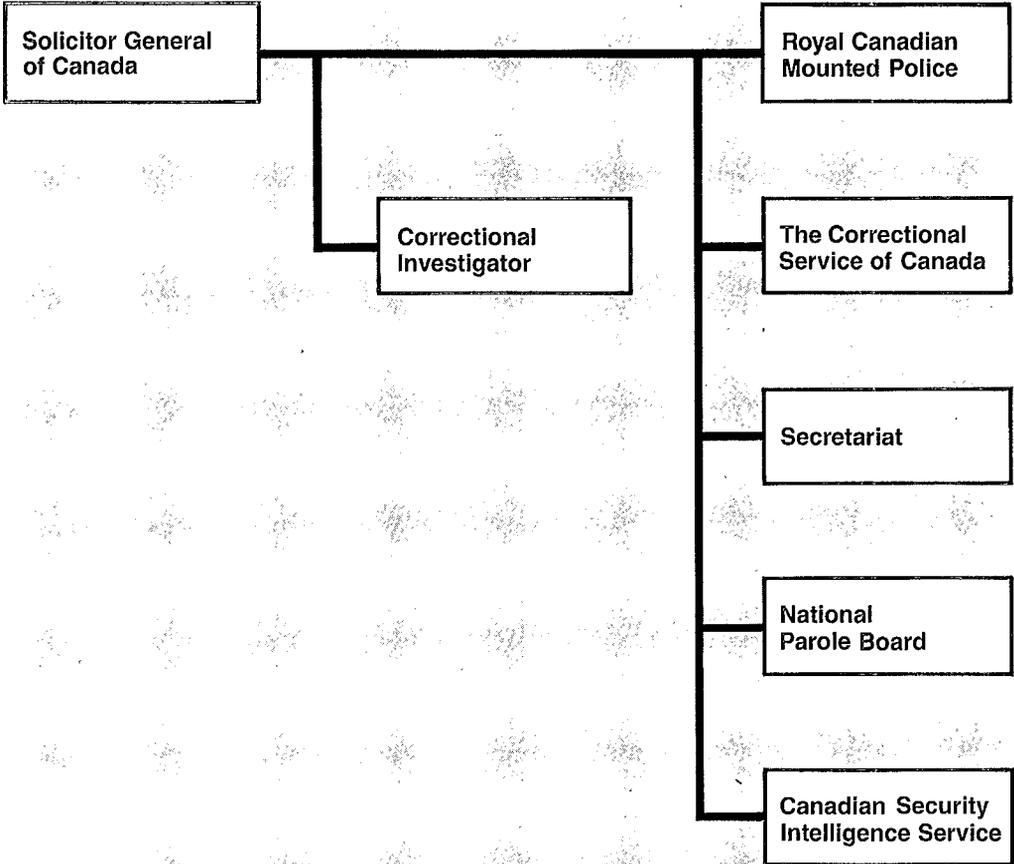
This booklet is intended to give Canadians an overview of the Ministry of the Solicitor General of Canada: its Secretariat; its agencies — the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Correctional Service of Canada, the National Parole Board, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service — and the Office of the Correctional Investigator.

The responsibilities, expenditures, and personnel strengths of three of the four agencies, are detailed in the central portion of the booklet. Please note, however, that the personnel strength of the Security Intelligence Service is not disclosed for reasons of national security. At the end of the publication is a statistical look at crime, victimization and criminal justice costs in Canada.

I hope that Canadians who have an interest in our criminal justice and national security systems, and in the structure of our federal government, will find this a useful introduction to a complex Ministry.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Perrin Beatty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Perrin Beatty



The Ministry of the Solicitor General at a Glance

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1. OVERVIEW OF THE MINISTRY

• The Role of the Federal Ministry of the Solicitor General

The Ministry of the Solicitor General is responsible for the enforcement of most federal laws, other than the Criminal Code, for the collection and reporting of security-intelligence information to government, and for the custody of offenders incarcerated for two years or more. The Ministry administers early release programs including granting parole and supervising offenders released into the community from federal institutions and from provincial and territorial institutions in all but three provinces. The Ministry also plays a central role in the development of national policy on policing, security intelligence, corrections, young offenders, crime prevention, victims of crime, in seeking innovative solutions to crime problems, and informing the public on criminal justice issues.

• The Ministry Objectives and Major Components

The goals of the Ministry of the Solicitor General include

- the reduction and prevention of crime and the effects of crime;
- the development of a more just and humane criminal justice system;
- the promotion of a more rational and cost-effective criminal justice system;
- the safeguarding of national security consistent with the accepted principles of a free and democratic society; and

- the encouragement of public participation in the justice system.

The Ministry of the Solicitor General is made up of a Secretariat and four Agencies, all reporting to the Solicitor General of Canada. The Agencies are: the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), the National Parole Board (NPB) and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS). Also reporting to the Solicitor General is the Correctional Investigator.

• 1983-84 Total Resource Allocation*

Personnel

In 1983-84, total Ministry authorized personnel numbered 31,808, divided as follows:

RCMP	67%
CSC	31%
NPB	1%
Secretariat	1%

Expenditures

National expenditures for criminal justice (federal, provincial and municipal) are estimated at about \$4.5 billion. Ministry expenditures total \$1.5 billion, that is, about 94 per cent of total federal criminal justice spending and about 31 per cent of total criminal justice spending by all levels of government.

* Throughout the Fact Book the year 1983-84 refers to the federal government fiscal year beginning April 1, 1983 and ending March 31, 1984.

2. WHAT DOES THE MINISTRY DO?

THE SECRETARIAT

Responsibilities

Headed by the Deputy Solicitor General, the Secretariat provides policy advice and support to the Minister. The Deputy Solicitor General is Chairman of the Senior Policy Advisory Committee, which includes the Commissioner of the RCMP, the Commissioner of the CSC, the Chairman of the NPB and the Director of CSIS. Although the Agencies report independently to the Solicitor General, the Ministry Secretariat performs duties on behalf of the Solicitor General that relate to them.

The Secretariat is divided into four functional areas: Criminal Justice and Corrections Policy; Policing, Law Enforcement and Security Policy; Research and Development; and Administration. Through the first three of these units, the Secretariat coordinates and develops correctional and other criminal justice policy in cooperation with the other components of the criminal justice system and national security system; develops and documents positions on federal law enforcement, national security policy and operations, and major policing issues; carries out demonstration and research projects designed to provide knowledge-based advice to the Minister and to agency officials and disseminates information on crime and the criminal justice system to professionals and the public.

The Secretariat is located in Ottawa, with the exception of six small regional offices in Moncton (Atlantic Region), Montreal (Quebec Region), Toronto (Ontario Region), Saskatoon (Prairie Region) Edmonton (Alberta and North-west Territories) and Vancouver (British

Columbia and the Yukon). These regional offices contribute to the promotion of joint activities between the federal and provincial governments, facilitate communication among the various components of the criminal justice system, encourage a community-based approach to criminal justice issues, and, more generally, promote an awareness of regional concerns and needs.

Inspector General of CSIS

The *Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act*, enacted in June, 1984, created the office of the Inspector General within the Secretariat. The Inspector General's task is to monitor CSIS compliance with its operational policies and to review the activities of the Service. The Inspector General reports to the Deputy Solicitor General.

• 1983-84 Resource Allocation

Personnel

The Secretariat has 293 authorized personnel.

Distribution of Secretariat Personnel

Research & Development Activities	31%
Communications & Media Relations	3%
Policy Development – Criminal Justice & Corrections	14%
Policy Development – Policing, Law Enforcement & Security*	18%
Executive	17%
Administration	17%

* including the Security Intelligence Transitional Group, formed to assist in the creation of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

Expenditures

Total Secretariat expenditures were \$28.1 million. These funds were distributed as follows:

Research & Development Activities	51%
Communications & Media Relations	2%
Policy Development – Criminal Justice & Corrections	7%
Policy Development – Policing, Law Enforcement & Security*	9%
Executive	8%
Administration	13%
Other (including employee benefit plans)	10%

* including the Security Intelligence Transitional Group.

As part of its research and development activities, the Secretariat assisted in the development and evaluation of about 90 programs (excluding youth employment projects) cost-shared with provinces, municipalities and citizens groups across Canada which provide direct service to communities and victims of crime, and which produce information on innovative approaches to crime control and crime prevention.

• Issues

As part of its role in developing policy and providing policy advice in support of the Solicitor General and the Ministry Agencies, the Secretariat reviews policies, proposals and legislation; acts as liaison with other participants in the criminal justice field such as federal and provincial departments and agencies and private sector organizations; and conducts research and statistical studies on Ministry priorities and enduring issues in criminal justice.

The Secretariat's Young Offenders Policy group oversees a program to help provinces and territories implement the new *Young Offenders Act*, which became law in April, 1984. This program also contributes federal money to provinces for developing the administrative framework for the many innovations to youth justice brought in by the Act.

Support to Victims of Crime

During 1983-84, the Secretariat played a leadership role in gathering information on the concerns of victims of crime, the social costs of crime, and public perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system. In cooperation with the Department of Justice and the provinces, it now supports 48 police and community-based victims services across the country, and continues to develop programs to improve services to victims of crime.

The Secretariat recently opened its National Victims Resource Centre, a computer-based information centre offering a wide variety of information on victims services programs, as well as a comprehensive selection of literature on the subject.

Crime Prevention

The Ministry Secretariat, in close collaboration with the RCMP, worked with the provinces and territories, local communities and the private sector in developing effective crime prevention programs. In the last eight years one hundred projects were developed across Canada, ranging from well-established approaches such as Neighbourhood Watch and Operation Identification to innovative approaches to the prevention of family violence, vandalism, and break and entry. The suc-

cess of these activities led to the creation of National Crime Prevention Week and the Solicitor General's Crime Prevention Awards to recognize outstanding achievements in crime prevention.

For more information on the Ministry Secretariat, write to:

Communications Group
Ministry Secretariat
Solicitor General Canada
340 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0P8

THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE (RCMP)

Responsibilities

Headed by the Commissioner, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police functions as a national police service and is responsible for protective security, the provision of national policing services, and, under federal-provincial agreements, provides provincial police services to the Yukon and Northwest Territories, and to all provinces except Ontario and Quebec. Under contract, the RCMP also provides municipal police services to 191 municipalities in the Atlantic, Prairie and Pacific regions. In this provincial and municipal capacity, the RCMP enforces the Criminal Code, Provincial Statutes, and certain Municipal By-Laws, as well as meeting federal enforcement requirements.

The *Security Offences Act* provides that the RCMP has primary responsibility to investigate offences arising out of threats to the security of Canada as well as offences against internationally protected persons such as diplomats. As with other areas of its law enforcement responsibilities, the security enforcement activities of the RCMP are carefully coordinated with local police.

The RCMP also is accountable for a number of protective security functions. These are:

- The security of designated Federal Government Electronic Data Processing facilities;
- The protection of certain vital facilities against possible destruction, or compromise through physical or electronic intrusion;

- The provision of security to designated Canadians, visiting foreign diplomats and their property; and
- The establishment of security arrangements for major events or emergency situations.

The RCMP has 16 divisions. There are 13 operational divisions further organized into 48 subdivisions and 717 detachments. Headquarters operations are located in Ottawa and the training school for recruits is located in Regina. "N" division in Ottawa houses the Canadian Police College, the Musical Ride and the RCMP Band.

Native Special Constable Program

In addition to its contract policing service, the RCMP operates a Native Special Constable Program in all provinces and territories except Ontario, Québec, and New Brunswick. There are 186 trained Native personnel providing a prevention-oriented approach to police work on Indian reserves and in Native communities. The Native Special Constable program is expected to improve the quality and quantity of policing services provided to Native communities thus reducing the number of Natives coming into conflict with the law.

1983-84 Resource Allocation

Personnel

In 1983-84, the RCMP had a total personnel strength of 20,593 or approximately 30% of the total policing strength in Canada. In the same year, 42 men and 28 women graduated from basic recruit training at the RCMP Academy in Regina. There were also 69 male and 17 female special constable graduates, including 23 male and 7 female Native graduates.

<i>Distribution of RCMP Personnel</i>	%
Police Services under Contract	46%
Enforcement of Federal Statutes and Executive Orders	32%
Administration	14%
Canadian Police Services	8%

Expenditures

For 1983-84, RCMP net expenditures totalled \$801.7 million.

Police Services Under Contract	31.3%
Enforcement of Federal Statutes and Executive Orders	38.5%
Administration	19.4%
Canadian Police Services	10.8%

Police Services Under Contract refers to the cost-shared policing arrangements for enforcement of the Criminal Code, Provincial Statutes, Territorial Ordinances, and Municipal By-Laws in all provinces (except Ontario and Quebec), certain municipalities in these provinces, and the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Enforcement of Federal Statutes and Executive Orders includes the prevention and detection of offences against such Federal Statutes as the *Narcotic Control Act*, *Bankruptcy Act*, *Immigration Act* and revenue statutes. It also includes such activities as airport security and protecting visiting foreign dignitaries.

Administration includes the Commissioner's office and staff, central and divisional management, administrative support services and recruit and in-service training.

Canadian Police Services (CPS) are services provided by the RCMP to all Canadian police forces. CPS includes the operation of crime detection laboratories across Canada, the main Identification Branches, the Canadian Police Information Centre, the Canadian Police College in Ottawa and the registry records services.

• **Investigations, Services, Programs**

In 1983-84 there were 576,762 Criminal Code offences (including traffic) reported to and subsequently investigated by the RCMP. Also, within the RCMP there are special branches that deal with specific areas of criminal activity. These include investigations in the following areas:

Fraud — fraud losses investigated by the Force totalled more than \$244 million.

Drugs — The RCMP seized 25% more cannabis in 1983-84 than in the previous year, layed 1,030 cocaine possession charges, and seized 98 kilograms of the drug. Heroin importation offences rose by 75% over the previous year, with a 22% increase in trafficking charges. The Force also seized eight clandestine laboratories making illegal chemical drugs.

Customs and Excise — 9,589 cases.

Consumer and Business Bankruptcies — 396 cases.

Highlights of other related RCMP activities include:

Polygraph Examinations

— 1,169 lie detector examinations were conducted.

Identification Services

— Provides a national storehouse for fingerprint records. In 1983/84, 128,118 new files were opened and 455,645 requests for service received.

Canadian Police Information Centre

— During 1983/84, there was a net growth of 65 terminals, bringing the total to 1,288 terminals located in accredited Canadian police agency offices from coast to coast. Weekly transactions (in thousands) for the various CPIC files were:

Vehicle — (186)
Persons — (336)
Criminal Records Synopsis — (178)
Property — (30)
Vehicle Registered Owner — (13)
Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System — (5)
Criminal Records — (62)

Forensic Laboratory Services

— The laboratories of the RCMP issued more than 18,400 scientific reports, many of which were instrumental in the solution of major criminal cases involving murder, sexual assault, fraud and illicit drug offences.

For More Information

The Public Relations Branch of the RCMP produces a number of information materials. The address is:

Public Relations Branch
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
1200 Alta Vista Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0R2

THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICE OF CANADA (CSC)

Responsibilities

Headed by the Commissioner of Corrections, The Correctional Service of Canada is responsible for the custody and control of inmates sentenced to two years or more and the provision of program opportunities including health care, education, training, employment, and counselling, spiritual and community programs. CSC also supervises approximately 5,700 offenders on various forms of conditional release such as parole and mandatory supervision. In other words, CSC administers the sentences of the courts and the decisions of the National Parole Board.

Headquarters in Ottawa has responsibility for overall planning, administration and policy development. Five regional offices (Abbotsford, Saskatoon, Kingston, Montreal, and Moncton) administer the operations of the institutions and conditional release and supervision programs.

• 1983-84 Resource Allocation

Personnel

In 1983-84, CSC was authorized to employ up to 10,233 persons.

Distribution of CSC Personnel by Activity

Custody of Inmates	32.5%
Offender Case Management	28.5%
Technical Services	13%
Administration	11%
Inmate Education, Training & Employment	7%

Health Care	5%
Planning & Management	3%

Expenditures

For 1983-84, expenditures were \$651.9 million. Of the total, \$114.7 million (17.5%) was devoted to capital costs and 10 million (1.5%) was allocated to private after-care services.

Distribution of CSC Expenditures by Activity

Technical Services	32%
Offender Case Management	21%
Custody of Inmates	20%
Inmate Education, Training & Employment	9.5%
Administration	9%
Health Care	5.5%
Planning & Management	3%

Custody of Inmates means the security and custodial care of inmates, ensuring that recognized international standards of humane custody are met while risk to the public, staff, and the offenders themselves is minimized.

Offender Case Management involves the preparation, direction and counselling of inmates in anticipation of their reintegration into society; the supervision of inmates released on parole or under mandatory supervision from both federal and provincial institutions; and the provision of program opportunities to offenders during their incarceration and subsequent supervision in the community.

Technical Services includes the provision of food, clothing and institutional services; the maintenance of accommodation and plant facilities; and the provision of engineering and architectural services.

Inmate Education, Training and Employment involves the provision of work and training opportunities in industrial, vocational and academic programs designed to assist inmates to reintegrate into the community.

Health Care includes the provision of medical, dental, psychiatric and therapeutic services to inmates.

Planning and Management includes headquarters, regional and institutional management; the development of policy and plans, and monitoring of performance; and the promotion of good communications and public awareness.

• Facilities, Inmate Custody, Services

Number of federal correctional institutions

Maximum security	10
Medium security	15
Minimum security	11
Community Correctional Centres	21
Medical/regional psychiatric centres	3
Prison for women	1

TOTAL 61

Number of inmates

As of March 31, 1984, the inmate population was 11,790.

Number of inmates by security classification

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Maximum security*	3,605	140
Medium security	6,125	1
Minimum security**	2,060	2
TOTAL	11,790	143

* includes psychiatric centres

** includes community correctional centres

Distribution of inmates by length of sentence

As of March 31, 1984, the inmate population were serving sentences as follows:

Less than three years	25.5%
Three to six years	34.5%
Six to ten years	14.5%
Ten years or more	25.5%*

* Included are 1,501 inmates serving life sentences for murder.

Average cost of maintaining one offender

In 1983-84 the average annual cost of maintaining an inmate in a federal institution was \$39,419.

The average cost of maintaining one inmate does not mean that it would cost that amount to house one additional offender. In view of the extremely high fixed costs of a correctional system (i.e., the cost of maintaining an institution regardless of the number of inmates housed), this incremental cost per inmate would be much lower (around \$5,000).

Sale of inmate products

In 1983-84, the sale of inmate manufactured products and farm products generated \$9.1 million.

Private family visits

As of April, 1984, there were 21 institutions participating in the private family visiting program which offers eligible inmates the opportunity to spend up to three days with their families in a home-like setting within an institution's walls. More institutions are expected to introduce private family visits. There were 1,400 visits during 1983-84.

Staff Training and Development

The Service maintains and operates an Induction Centre in Kingston, Ontario, for all new anglophone recruits while francophone recruits are trained at the Laval Staff College in Quebec. As well, each region maintains a staff college to meet continuing training requirements.

Public Information

The Communications Branch of the Correctional Service produces a number of publications available to the general public upon request. Popular publications include: *Let's Talk* (the CSC staff newspaper); *Basic Facts About Corrections in Canada* and *Beyond the Walls*, (a booklet on the role of CSC within the Canadian criminal justice system). Write to:

Communications Branch
Correctional Service of Canada
340 Laurier Avenue West,
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P9

THE NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD (NPB)

Responsibilities

Headed by the Chairman, the National Parole Board is responsible for granting parole to eligible inmates of federal correctional institutions and inmates in provinces and territories where no parole board exists, (i.e. all provinces and territories other than Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia). The Board also recommends the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of Mercy and the granting of pardons. It imposes terms and conditions on inmates released on parole or subject to mandatory supervision. Under specified conditions, it may revoke the release of any individual on parole or under mandatory supervision. The NPB's headquarters are in Ottawa, and the Board has five regional offices (Moncton, Montreal, Kingston, Saskatoon and Burnaby).

The National Parole Board is made up of 26 full time members appointed for a period of up to ten years. Temporary Members are appointed from time to time in each region to assist the Board in its duties. In addition, representatives in each of the five regions (Community Board Members) are designated to act as regular Board Members when release is being considered for inmates serving sentences of life imprisonment for murder or incarcerated for an indeterminate period.

Release on Parole

Types of Release for Federal Inmates:

Full parole is considered in the cases of inmates who have served over one-third of their sentence. This involves release in the community under specific condi-

tions and supervision by the Parole Service of CSC. On average, paroled inmates have served 40% of their sentences in an institution before actual release by the NPB.

Day Parole is granted for a specified period of time, usually six months, and normally involves the return to the institution at night. Length of sentence is the determining factor in eligibility for application for all forms of release.

Temporary absences are granted with or without CSC escort for up to three days, for medical, administrative, or humanitarian reasons. All inmates are eligible for an Escorted Temporary Absence. They are eligible for an Unescorted Temporary Absence after completing one-sixth of their sentence or at any time for emergency medical treatment. The eligibility criteria for granting unescorted temporary absences to those serving life or indeterminate sentences differ.

Release Under Mandatory Supervision

This is a legal right under which inmates are released after two-thirds of their sentence is completed, assuming good conduct throughout their periods of incarceration. The Parole Board has the authority to revoke mandatory supervision if the conditions of the release are violated or if the inmate commits a new crime.

Proportion of offenders on parole, day parole, and mandatory supervision

As of March 31, 1984, the average daily number of offenders in the community on a form of conditional release was 7,269. The percentage distribution by release type was as follows:

Parole	53%
Mandatory Supervision	26%
Day Parole	21%

Clemency and Criminal Records – 1983-84

The National Parole Board reviews applications for pardons under the *Criminal Records Act* and the Royal Prerogative of Mercy.

A pardon is a means of formally recognizing that an individual has been rehabilitated and reintegrated into society and should once more enjoy full rights as a citizen.

Applications Received by the Clemency Section	9,900
Pardon Recommendations	8,275
Royal Prerogative of Mercy Recommendations	38

1983-84 Resource Allocation

Personnel

The number of NPB authorized personnel for 1983-84 was 292.

Distribution of NPB Personnel by Activity

Conditional release	69%
Clemency and Criminal Records	19%
Policy & Corporate Management	12%

Of total personnel, 47% were located in Headquarters.

Expenditures 1983-84

Expenditures totalled \$13.1 million, broken down as follows:

Granting of conditional release	68%
Policy & corporate management	16%
Pardons and clemency	16%

For more information on NPB activities, write to:

The Communications Division
National Parole Board
340 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0R1

THE CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (CSIS)

Responsibilities

The Government has a responsibility to protect Canada's secrets from espionage, its information from unauthorized disclosure, its institutions from subversion, and its policies from clandestine influence. In addition, the Government must deal with the increasing threat of international terrorism. These obligations require the production for use by the Government of accurate and timely intelligence on the activities of individuals and groups that may be responsible for such threats to our security.

Headed by the Director, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service investigates those activities, analyzes and interprets the information collected, and reports to and advises the Government of Canada. This enables the Government to anticipate problems and prepare effective, carefully considered responses.

In support of security programs to protect the Government from security threats, CSIS provides "security assessments" to Departments of the Government of Canada to ensure an employee's loyalty when his or her work involves access to classified information. CSIS also has a responsibility to provide to Government information and advice relating to security matters under the *Citizenship Act* or the *Immigration Act*.

Resource Allocation

The budget for CSIS is \$115,908,000. In the interests of national security, the personnel strength of CSIS is not made public.

For more information:

Domestic Liaison Division
Canadian Security Intelligence Service
East Memorial Building
P.O. Box 9732
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P4

THE CORRECTIONAL INVESTIGATOR

Responsibilities

The Office of the Correctional Investigator was created over a decade ago to investigate and report upon problems of inmates in federal penitentiaries. The Correctional Investigator reports directly to the Solicitor General of Canada in an annual report which is tabled in Parliament. In 1983-84 the Correctional Investigator investigated 1,507 complaints and made 19 recommendations for changes in policy and procedures.

Copies of the Correctional Investigator's annual reports are available from the Communications Group, Ministry Secretariat, Solicitor General Canada, 340 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P8.

3. HOW MUCH CRIME AND HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

How much crime is there in Canada? Most experts in criminal justice statistics have treated with caution the last twenty years of UCR (Uniform Crime Reporting) data, which have shown a steadily increasing crime rate. There are unresolved questions about reporting and counting practices for example, which cast doubt on the reliability of this information. We know, for example, that only about 40% of victims of crimes report these incidents to the police. If this reporting rate went up to 50% we would think we were in the middle of a major crime wave even if the actual amount of crime did not change.

Although caution must be exercised when using the UCR data as the sole indicator of crime rates in Canada, these statistics have been the main source of national information on the extent of reported crime.

The statistics in the following two graphs highlight offence rates over 1962 to 1982 (latest available) and compare violent crime which is the most feared, to property crime, which is the most common.

Crime Trends, 1962-1982

- Total Criminal Code and Federal Statute offence rates of crimes reported to the police more than tripled between 1962 and 1982, from 2,938 to 9,403 offences per 100,000 Canadians.

Criminal Code and Federal Statute Offence Rates per 100,000 Canadians, 1962-1982

- In the 1962-1982 period, both violent⁽¹⁾ and property crime rates increased steadily. Violent crimes, however, remained a small proportion of the total (less than 7%), while property crimes were much more frequent (around 50% of the total).

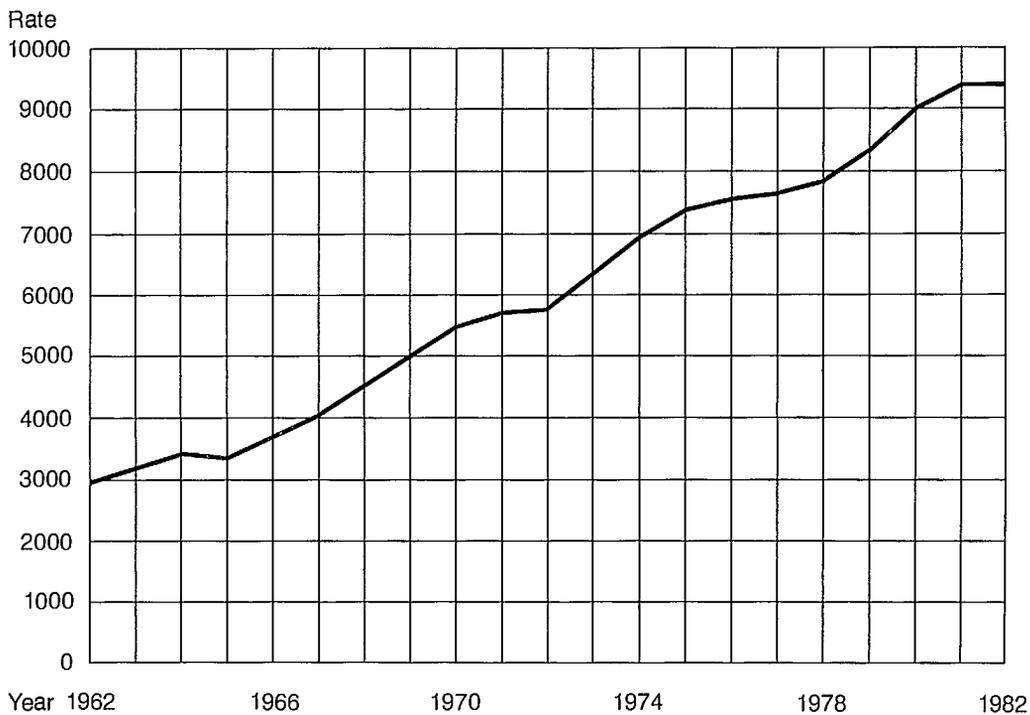
In recent years:

In Canada, over the 1978-82 period, offence rates per 100,000 population changed as follows:

- total offence rates went up 17.5%. (Criminal Code, Federal and Provincial Statutes, and Municipal By-Law violations);
- the rates of Criminal Code offences increased 22.7% (violent, property, and other offences);
- the violent offence rates showed a 15.9% increase. (homicide, attempted murder, sexual assault, assault, and robbery); and
- the property offence rates showed a 27.6% increase. (break and enter, theft of motor-vehicle, theft, possession of stolen goods, and fraud).

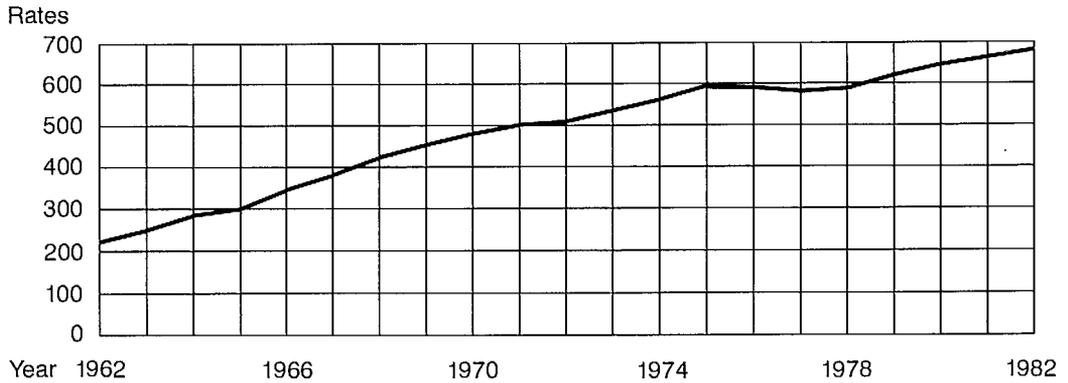
(1) We are using the expression violent crimes because of conventional usage; however, this is something of a misnomer given that many so-called violent crimes result in no actual injury.

Criminal Code & Federal Statute Offences

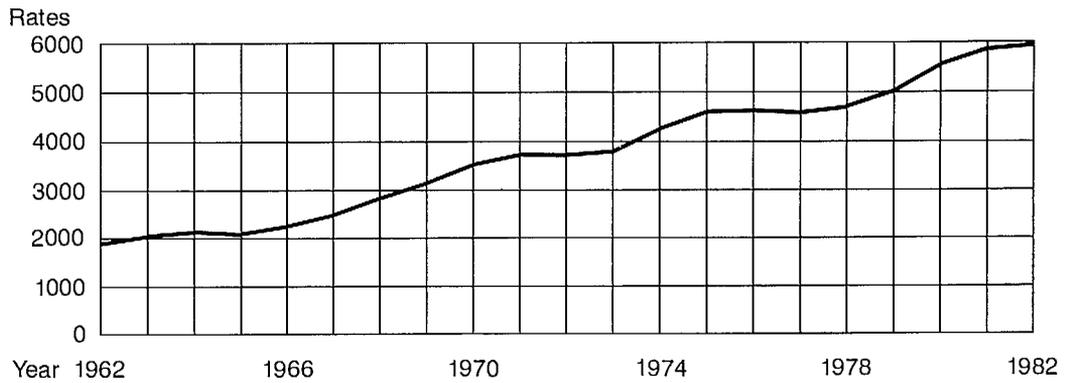


Source: Canadian Centre for Justice
Statistics, *Crime and Traffic
Enforcement Statistics, Annual,*
Catalogue #85-205

Violent Crime
Rates per 100,000 population 1962-1982



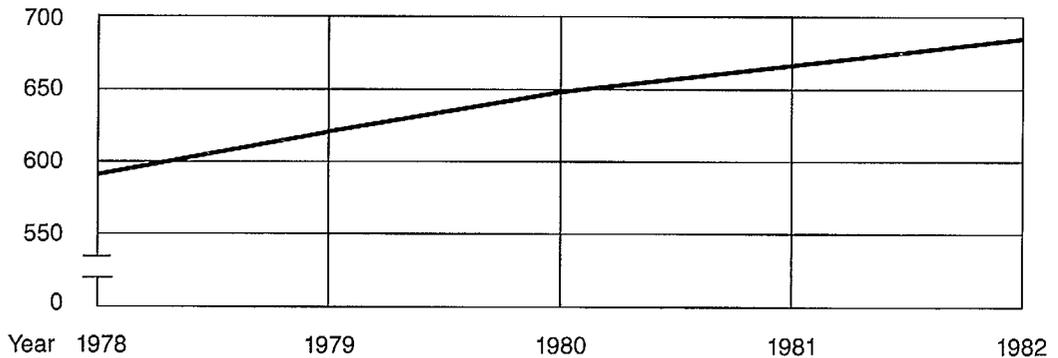
Property Crime
Rates per 100,000 Population 1962-1982



Source: Statistics Canada, *Crime and Traffic Enforcement Statistics*, Annual, Catalogue #85-205.

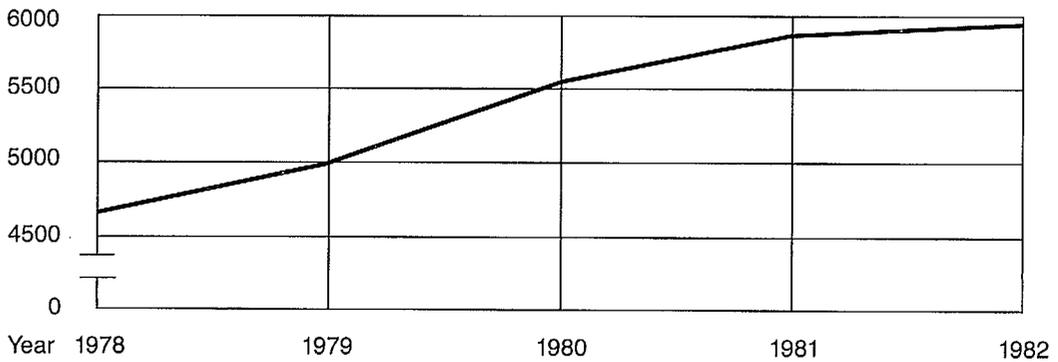
**Violent Crime
1978-1982**

Rates



**Property Crime
1978-1982**

Rates



Source: Statistics Canada, *Crime and Traffic Enforcement Statistics*, Annual, Catalogue #84-205.

Property and Violent Crimes

Comparison Between 1978 and 1982

In both years, around 50% of all crimes were property crimes, and violent crimes were about 6% of the total.

In both 1982 and 1978 assault was the most frequent violent offence. (The assault category includes wounding, assault causing bodily harm, and assault on a police officer). In 1978, assaults accounted for 76.5% of violent crimes and 74.6% in 1982. In both years homicide and murder accounted for 1%.

Public Perceptions of Crime

The February 1982 *Gallup National Survey* (Canada) included questions on the views held by the public regarding the extent of crime in Canada. These views were then compared to police occurrence statistics. Most Canadians see serious crime as more of a problem than available statistics suggest.

- Canadians vastly overestimate the proportion of crime which involves violence. More specifically, almost three-quarters of the respondents said that at least 30% of all crimes committed in Canada involved violence, and many believed that the figure was much higher. Official statistics show that in 1981 for example, violent offences represented only 5.7% of the total reported to the police.
- Canadians think that murders increased in recent years. Almost two-thirds of the respondents thought that murder had increased since capital punishment was abol-

ished, but data on homicide and murder show no significant changes in either numbers or rates since 1976.

- Canadians also think that offenders released on parole are more likely to commit crimes of violence soon after release than they actually do. Close to two-thirds of the respondents thought that at least 40% of the people on parole commit violent crimes within three years of their release, and many believed that this proportion was much higher. The actual figure was about 13%.

Sources: (1) Doob, Anthony N. and Roberts, Julian V., *Crime: Some Views of the Canadian Public*, Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto, August 1982.

(2) Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, *Crime and Traffic Enforcement Statistics*, Annual, Catalogue #85-205.

Canadian Urban Victimization Survey

The Canadian Urban Victimization Survey, conducted in 1982, provides information concerning the extent of reported and unreported crime during 1981, the impact of criminal victimization, public perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system, and several other important themes. The data were obtained through telephone interviews with over 60,000 adults, held in seven Canadian urban centres: Greater Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax-Dartmouth, and St. John's. Eight types of incidents were studied, grouped under two major headings: *Personal*

Crimes (sexual assault, robbery, assault, and personal theft) and *Household Crimes* (break and enter, motor-vehicle theft, household theft, and vandalism). This survey was funded by the Ministry of the Solicitor General and conducted in cooperation with Statistics Canada.

Unreported Incidents

The Canadian Urban Victimization Survey reveals that in the seven Canadian cities, more than half (58%) of the incidents described to interviewers were never brought to the attention of the police.

- The crime most likely to remain unreported was theft of personal property (71% unreported).
- The crime most likely to be reported was completed theft of a motor vehicle (89% reported).

The most common reasons why victims did not report to the police were:

- Victims thought that the offences were too minor. This was mentioned in two-thirds of the incidents in which no report was made.
- Victims believed that police could do nothing about it (61%).
- Victims thought that it was too inconvenient to report the crime (24%).
- Victims mentioned the fear of consequences of reporting a crime in four per cent of cases.

Age and Sex of Victims

Risk of victimization is closely tied to age and sex.

— Contrary to popular belief, the elderly are not more likely to be victimized than other age groups. Those under 25 are the most frequent victims of personal offences. As age increases, rates of victimization decrease for all crime categories.

— While it is no surprise that women are more likely than men to be victims of sexual assault, it is perhaps more surprising that one in eight victims of sexual assault was male. Women are also more likely than men to be victims of theft of personal property.

— Men are almost twice as likely as women to be victims of robbery* or assault.

* The term robbery is used when the theft is accompanied by the use or threat of force.

Costs

Of the approximately 1,600,000 victimization incidents reported in the seven cities, fewer than 350,000 could be classified as involving personal contact with the offender. Nevertheless, these resulted in 50,500 nights in hospital and 405,700 days lost due to some form of incapacitation. About 10% of those who were victims of assault, robbery or sexual assault had to seek some form of medical or dental attention. While serious injury was relatively rare, again the costs of victimization fall more heavily on some than on others, for example, on those who have only basic medical coverage and of course on those who are physically frail and vulnerable.

We know that the victims of some offences are more likely than others to be seriously injured. Victims of sexual assault, in particular, were more likely to be injured and when injured were more likely to require medical attention. We know, too, that the costs of such offences run far deeper than the physical or financial.

Source: *The Canadian Urban Victimization Survey, 1982.*

Criminal Justice Costs

In the past twenty years, the Canadian Criminal Justice System has undergone striking changes. The absolute level of spending for criminal justice services has risen dramatically. Relative increases, however, have remained small. Many of the costs discussed in this section reflect activities which are not directly related to crime. Much police work, for example, is devoted to various forms of social service. The data which follow provide our best approximations of how much is being spent for the full range of criminal justice services; 1980 is the latest year for which it is available.

Federal Spending for Criminal Justice (Millions)

<i>Year*</i>	<i>Courts</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Corrections</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Police</i>	<i>%</i>
1961-62	8	10	23	29	49	61
1966-67	13	8	58	34	101	59
1971-72	29	9	81	26	199	64
1976-77**	75	10	225	29	470	61
1979-80	53	5	333	32	645	63
1980-81	70	6	401	33	733	61

* Fiscal years

** From 1977-78 onward, Statistics Canada has narrowed the definition of courts of law which resulted in discontinuity for the series.

Source: Statistics Canada, Federal Government Finance, annual (Catalogue # 68-211)

Federal, Provincial/Territorial, and Local Spending for Criminal Justice (Millions)

<i>Year*</i>	<i>Federal</i>	<i>Provincial</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Total</i>
1961	80	105	108	293
1966	173	202	173	548
1971	309	407	350	1,066
1976	770	942	842	2,554
1979	1,031	1,168	1,095	3,294
1980	1,204	1,353	1,267	3,824

* Federal and provincial/territorial expenditures are reported per fiscal year. Local spending is reported on a calendar year basis.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Federal Government Finance*, annual (Catalogue # 68-211); *Provincial Government Finance*, annual (Catalogue # 68-207); *Local Government Finance — Actual*, annual, (Catalogue # 68-204).

For More Information

Copies of Ministry Facts, research and statistics reports, annual reports of the Ministry and a variety of other criminal justice oriented publications are available from the Ministry Secretariat.

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